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C O N F I D E N T I A L ROME 003580

SIPDIS

E.O. 12958: DECL: 07/19/2012
TAGS: PREL IT KICC

SUBJECT: ICC: ITALY ON BILATERAL AGREEMENT TO PROTECT U.S. CITIZENS FROM THE ICC

REF: SECSTATE 135262

CLASSIFIED BY: CDA THOMAS COUNTRYMAN FOR REASONS 1.5 (B) AND (D) CONFIDENTIAL

¶1. (C) SUMMARY: WHILE MINDFUL THAT THE U.S. FACES A GREATER RISK OF ALLEGATIONS UNDER THE INTERNATIONAL CRIMINAL COURT (ICC) THAN DO OTHER STA

¶2. (C) ON JULY 19, CDA AND POLOFF DELIVERED REF DEMARCHE SEPARATELY TO GIANCARLO ARAGONA, THE MFA'S POLITICAL DIRECTOR, AND TO PAOLO DIONISI,

¶3. (C) THE CDA COUNTERED THAT OUR DESIRE TO HAVE A BILATERAL AGREEMENT WITH THE GOI UNDER ARTICLE 98 OF THE ROME STATUTE IS NOT MEANT TO UNDEF

¶4. (C) IN AN EARLIER CONVERSATION AT THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE, DIONISI ALSO PROMISED THAT THE GOI WOULD STUDY THE USG REQUEST CAREFULLY. HE

¶5. (U) ON JULY 17, AT THE CEREMONY FOR THE FOURTH ANNIVERSARY OF THE SIGNING OF THE ICC STATUTE AT FAO HEADQUARTERS IN ROME, BERLUSCONI DESCRI

¶5. (C) COMMENT: EMBASSY WILL FOLLOW UP WITH BOTH MFA AND THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE AS A PRIORITY ISSUE. ALTHOUGH ARAGONA DID NOT MENTION IT, COUNTRYMAN